

Gentlemen,

As a General Class Amateur licensed in 1999(K5MLC), I would like to offer my support for Mr. Reich's (K8AD) petition. It seems to me that Morse is a tradition that should not block HF access, but instead may be another step in the learning and technical prowess required for the "top" license. My own experience with Morse suggests that Morse is not for everyone. I tried unsuccessfully for years to learn Morse, and finally, after months of computer aided drill and practice, was able to aquire enough skill to pass the 5 wpm test. As a certified professional educator, I would like to think that my mental capacity had little to do with my struggle. My experience would suggest that some folks simply do not "get it" as easily as others. For these reasons, I would support Dale's petition eliminating the 5 wpm requirement for General Class operators while maintaining the requirement for the Extra Class ticket.

Regards,

Mike Charlston, K5MLC